



## **Mauritius** fights UK for island

BRITAIN must hand over the Chagos Is-lands to Mauritius, even if Donald Trump scuttles the current proposed agreement, the Mauritian PM says. Navin Ramgoolam

(above) has demanded

(above) has demanded that deal or no deal, the Chagos Islands should return to Mauritian control.

In a warning to Sir Keir Starmer he said:
"If the deal isn't signed, we will continue our fight, which bagon in

we will continue our fight, which began in 1965, to ensure the Chagos archipelago regains Mauritian sovereignty."

Under the proposed pact, the UK will give the islands to Mauritius, while securing a long-term lease for the air base on Diego Garcia — used as a staging point for operations in Afghanistan and Iraq after the 9/11 terror attacks — so Britain attacks – so Britain and America can still

## Number with no job rises

BRITAIN'S jobless rate has risen unexpectedly and the number of staff on payrolls has fallen by the most since the height

of the pandemic.
The Office for National
Statistics said the rate of unemployment rose to 4.4% in the three months to November – up from 4.3% in the three months

4.3% in the three months to October.
The number of payrolled employees was estimated to have fallen by 47,000 during December to 30.3 million - the biggest drop since November 2020.

Meanwhile, wage growth rose again, with average regular pay up 5.6% in the three months



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## Rachel Reeves goes full The Thick of It...

## **VALUE FOR MONEY WA** RACHEL Reeves' new Office for Value for Money

has been blasted by MPs for being a waste of cash

The body, a key part of the Chancellor's plans to restore public finances, has been criticised as an "understaffed, poorly defined organisation" with

unclear aims and targets.
A report by the Treasury
Select Committee warned a lack of resources, a very short lifespan and a large risk of duplication makes it difficult to see how it will have a "meaningful impact on driving efficiencies in departments".

The Committee's chairman, Dame Meg Hillier, a Labour MP, said: "Our Committee has concluded the Office for Value for Money is an understaffed, poorly defined organisation which has been set up with a vague remit and no clear plan to measure its

effectiveness. "All of which leads me to feel this initiative may be something of a red herring." The new Office was

announced by the Treasury

after civil servants were instructed by Ms Reeves to carry out an audit of the public finances under the previous Government.

The Chancellor then claimed this had identified a £22billion "black hole" left by the Tories.

The Office for Value for Money was launched to ensure that the new Labour Government "places value for money at the heart of its spending decisions".

However, MPs on the

Committee highlighted that David Goldstone, a Whitehall veteran who will chair the Office, is only contracted for a year, but will be paid £50,000 for working one day a week – well above the wage a typical British worker gets

for a full-time work week of five days of £37,430. The Chancellor's latest bungle has led to her being compared to hapless minister Nicola Murray (Rebecca Front) in BBC comedy The Thick of It



**BUNGLE: Reeves** 



**HAPLESS: Murray** 

## **Health Sec** delays new hospitals

WES Streeting has come under fire as he delayed the Tory party's new NHS hospital deal by at least a decade.

The Health Secretary (above) was accused of using Donald Trump's America presidential inauguration to "bury bad news" and break yet another Labour election promise.

yet another Labour election promise. It means patients will face more years of misery in dilapidated old hospitals – some with leaking roofs and crumbling walls and ceilings.

ceilings.
Ex-Tory PM Boris Johnson committed in 2019 to build 40 new NHS hospitals across England by 2030. But the dire state of

But the dire state of the country's finances means some will now not begin construction until 2039, Mr Streeting told MPs.

He accused the

Conservatives of failing to fund their plan, saying it was "built on the shaky foundation

the shaky foundation of false hope".
Setting out a new timetable, Mr Streeting said construction of the new hospitals would proceed in four "waves", with the final part not beginning until 2035 -2039.

## **HMRC** services 'deteriorating'

**HM Revenue and Customs** has been accused by a public spending watchdog of degrading its own services "as a matter of policy" and damaging public confidence in the tax system.

Concerns about a deteriorating service, uncollectable debt and a reduction in prosecutions have been highlighted by the Public Accounts Committee. It said the poor service

has worsened and it is concerned that the tax authority has sought to degrade its telephone service to drive taxpayers to digital channels. HMRC should take

responsibility for how it has failed its customers, act more boldly to tackle tax system abuse, and pursue debts and wealth hidden offshore more effectively, the report said

## PM vows 'no stone unturned' on Southport inquiry and insists... IN COURT: Rudakubana (above) and (*right*) Keir Starmer

#### THE PM has denied claims of a Southport "cover-up" as he admitted the state failed to stop the killer going on the rampage. Keir Starmer told a press

conference at No 10 that people were right to call for answers over "failings" in the case of Axel Rudakubana. Sir Keir said that it was a

Sir Keir said that it was a "devastating moment in our history" and must be a "line in the sand" for Britain, with "fundamental change" in the way citizens are protected.

He stressed the probe should be "unburdened by cultural sensitivities" and institutions will not be allowed to "deflect" responsibility. He said that too often in Westminster the "wagons were circled".

Mr Starmer added: "I'm angry about it... nothing will be off the table in this inquiry."

row

#### By COLIN HURST news@sundaysport.co.uk

The PM said he'd stressed in August that "justice must be done" and "above all, we must not interfere".

not interfere".

However, he flatly rejected allegations of any "cover-up" of terrorist links in the immediate aftermath of the atrocity — which was followed by a wave

-which was followed by a wave of rioting across the country. The PM confirmed he knew about the details "as they were emerging" but could not risk the case collapsing and the "vile" perpetrator walking away free. He said: "That is why the law of this country forbade me or anybody else from disclosing details sooner. I wouldn't be forgiven if I had."

Sir Keir said he was under "no illusions" that the lack of "trust" will continue until the

"trust" will continue until the state is "honest" about problems

and "roots them out". But he insisted he had been inspired by the response of the South-port community, who rebuilt despite the tragedy being compounded by violence on

compounded by violence on the streets.

"Responsibility for the disor-der and violence lies with those who perpetrated it," he said.

Rudakubana pleaded guilty on Monday to murdering three girls at a Taylor Swift-themed dance class in July.

#### **Anti-extremism**

It's emerged he was referred three times to anti-extremism programme Prevent – amid concerns over his fixation with violence.

But despite this, and contact with other state agencies, the authorities failed to stop the attack which claimed the lives of Alice da Silva Aguiar, nine, Bebe King, six, and Elsie Dot Stancombe, seven.

Sir Keir added: "No words come anywhere expressing the brutality and horror in this case.

"Every parent in Britain will have had the same thought. It

have had the same thought. It could have been anywhere, it could have been our children, but it was Southport. It was Bebe, Elsie, Alice.

"Back in August, I said there will be a time for questions, but that first, justice had to be done, and that, above all, we must not interfere with the work of the police, the prosecutors and the delivery of that justice. Well, yesterday, thankfully, a measure of justice was done, but it won't bring those girls back to their families, and it won't remove the trauma those girls back to their families, and it won't remove the trauma from the lives of those who were injured – their lives will never be the same.

"The tragedy of the Southport killings must be a line in the sand for Britain."





SPAIN'S socialist prime minister has vowed to ban non-resident Brits from buying homes in

from buying homes in the country. Speaking at a Socialist Party event in the Extremadura region in western Spain, Pedro Sanchez (left) said: "We are going to propose that these non-EU foreigners, who neither they nor their families reside here and who are therefore only speculating with

these homes and houses, be prohibited from buying

them in our country.'
Sanchez's remarks
follow on from his announcement last week announcement last week of a 12-point programme to tackle a mounting housing crisis which has left locals furious with a lack of available homes. The measures included raising property tax for non-EU foreigners buying property in Spain by 100%. House-buyers in

Spain are currently

Spain are currently expected to pay costs and taxes worth 10-12% of the price of the house, depending on where it is. Sanchez said that the new tariff would help "prioritise the availability of housing for residents". He noted that in 2023 alone, non-residents from outside of the EU bought 27,000 houses and flats in Spain – "not to live in them, but mainly to speculate". speculate'

## TODAY'S WEATHER TODAY will be rather cloudy at first, staying grey across central and southern parts of England for most of the day. Western areas will prior some THREE OWN WESTER OUTLOOK SAT

will bring

more of the same after another pretty chilly and slightly damp start to the will enjoy some sunny spells in the afternoon. Temperatures of 5C in London, 6C in Cardiff, 4C in Manches-ter, 6C in Belfast and 4C in

day for most of the UK.

Temperatures of 6C in
London, 5C in Cardiff, 5C in Manchester, 6C in Belfast and 5C in

Edinburgh. OUTLOOK: Mixed



# Model shares new bikini holiday vid



By SUZIE SHELDON news@sundaysport.co.uk

#### **Banned**

That's a reference to TikTok being briefly taken down in the US after it was banned.
Another caption on Emily's social media post read: "Guess we live here now."
Fans gushed over her appearance in the comments section, with one posting: "God was in a good mood the day he made you," while another said, "Perfection!" A third user was more robust and wrote: "I'd like to bum you – right up your lovely arse."





## Vladdi hell! **Could flasher** be Putin?

A MAN being hunted by police in connection with a spate of indecent exposure incidents at a pub is the spitting image of Vladimir Putin, social media users have said.

Officers want to speak with the despot leader's lookalike (above) after a man exposed himself days before Christmas to a number of people at The White Hart in Bicester, Oxfordshire. Thames Valley Police believe the man captured on CCTV may have vital information. But people on Facebook couldn't help but notice his likeness to the Russian dictator with one simply asking: What's Putin doing drinking in Oxford? Another quipped that they 'didn't realise Putin had connections to Bicester'.

The offender is unlikely to be Putin, who is banned from visiting Bicester under international sanctions.



## **Building repairs** could cost £49bn

THE backlog in maintaining crumbling schools, hospitals and prisons could cost at least £49 billion, a spending watchdog has said.

Ministers have been warned by the National Audit Office that delaying repairs to Government buildings is a "false

buildings is a "false economy" which could cost more in the long term.

Schools, NHS
properties and Ministry of
Defence buildings make
up 88% of the works
backlog.







## Pauline has dementia, says hubby

ACTRESS Pauline Quirke will step away from public life after

from public life after she was diagnosed with dementia, her husband has revealed. Steve Sheen announced the Birds of a Feather star, 65, would retire from "all professional and commercial duties" after being diagnosed with the disease in 2021. 2021.

In a statement, Sheen revealed his wife's diagnosis for the

"It is with a heavy heart that I announce my wife Pauline's decision to step back from all professional and commercial duties due to her diagnosis of Dementia in 2021," he

said.
"Pauline has been an rauline has been an inspiration through her work in the film and TV industry, her charity endeavours and as the founder of the

as the founder of the very successful Pauline Quirke Academy of Performing Arts (PQA). "Her talent, dedication, and vision have touched countless lives and will continue to do so through the legacy."

so through the legacy of her work."
The celebrated actress is best known for her role as Sharon
Theodopolopodous on the sitcom Birds of a the stroom Biras of a Feather, winning a British Comedy Award for the role.

Her other appearances include Broadchurch and Emmerdale.

## Horny honey has a sting in the tail

HONEY laced with potentially lethal doses of Viagra is being seized in record quantities across

rance.
Customs officials warned they had noticed a huge surge in the illegal import of banned "love honey" which is being sold online and in corner shops for "recreational

The "adulterated" The "adulterated" nectar, also dubbed "erectile honey" or "horny honey", claims to be an all-natural aphrodisiac but in fact contains the active elements of the prescription drugs Viagra and Cialis, used to treat

erectile dysfunction. France's customs agency said: "As the amount of adulteration is unknown, and the doses consumed are neither recommended nor quantified, consumers are taking considerable risks by taking this type of adulterated honey."

"There is a risk of very serious or even fatal accidents if taken with other medication," said cardiologist Dr Alain

## Trump's whirlwind first hours in office shame struggling Labour leader



**NEW Yank boss Donald Trump** hit the ground running on Monday and into yesterday, signing hundreds of executive orders to steer America away from woke madness.

Using his trademark Sharpie marker, Trump issued a flurry of marker, frump issued a flurry of executive orders and directives as he sought to put his stamp on his new administration on issues ranging from immigration, gender and energy, to criminal

gender and energy, to criminal pardons.

The President signed some orders from the US Capitol, where his swearing-in ceremony took place, and more later at the White House.

Executive orders allow presidents to enact some policies without the consent of Congress and can take effect immediately. Some could later be challenged in court.

Members of Mr Trump's team have been working on the orders for months, and intend to use them to signal an abrupt change in direction

months, and intend to use them to signal an abrupt change in direction from the Biden administration.

Mr Trump has issued an executive order aimed at ending Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives in the federal government.

Mr Trump rescinded two orders that Mr Biden signed on his first day in office four years ago, one advancing racial equity for underserved communities and another

From BRAD CHADWICK in Washington

news@sundaysport.co.uk

combating discrimination based on gender identity or sexual orientation.
The new order stopped so-called positive discrimination.
The President also tackled gender

positive discrimination.

The President also tackled gender diversity, reflecting his inauguration speech vow that the policy of the US was that there are only two genders.

Trump declared a national emergency on the southern border to help combat illegal immigration and said he will use the US military to enforce immigration removals, and can circumvent Congress by designating the issue an emergency. He laid out a sweeping plan to maximise US oil and gas production—including by declaring a national energy emergency, stripping away excess regulation and withdrawing the US from an international pact to fight climate change.

He made "working from home" civil servants return to the office and even ordered that The Gulf of Mexico will be renamed the Gulf of America.

An insider said: "The President has hit the ground running, while wearing rocket-powered sneakers." It's a bit of a contrast to your PM Starmer who set up an energy company that doesn't make energy, a wealth fund that has no money and hiked taxes."





# 'Sex photo swap' Miss is cleared

A FORMER school employee who had been accused of swapping nudes with a student has been cleared.

Ashley Peterson, 34 (above), was fired from her role as a positive behaviour coach at Davies High School in Fargo, North Dakota, in October 2023.

She was charged with promoting a sexual performance by a minor and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

The deferen used

of a minor.
The defence used their closing arguments to accuse the student of having no credibility or consistency in

of naving no credibility or consistency in his story.

Ms Peterson's lawyer Adam Justinger said:
"Not only does he lie on Snapchat, he lied under oath to all of us. He stood in front of the court and he took the oath – an oath punishable by the penalty of perjury."
The prosecution instructed the jury to ignore the sex of the two individuals involved and that they proved the charges beyond a reasonable doubt.

After closing argu.

doubt.
After closing arguments, the jury went into deliberations for four hours before reaching a verdict.
Ms Peterson stood emotionless as each charge was read with a not guilty verdict.

## **Smart phone** health alerts 'cause stress'

MORE than half of smart watch owners say the gadget makes them feel more stressed about their health.

their health.

Smart watches allow people with high blood pressure to monitor their levels and those with type 2 diabetes to manage blood sugar spikes by receiving alerts on their devices.

They are also able to track fitness levels, calories burned, heart rate and sleep patterns.

A report from market research firm Mintel shows users' non-stop

shows users' non-stop monitoring and getting notifications from these devices makes users

devices makes users more anxious. It is estimated that a quarter of the population own a smart watch – they are most popular with women aged 25-44, but this drops by nearly half for women aged 45-64. Mintel urged leading smart watch brands, such as Apple and Garmin, to

as Apple and Garmin, to encourage "digital detoxes" where users cut themselves off from the technology for a period of time, or to offer a more basic option which tracks health either weekly or when there's a potentially serious issue.









DON'T you just love 'em! Celeb babes just adore flashing their bits on social media – and here's a selection of the hottest ones this week...



JOURDAN DUNN







## **Monster reinvents himself online**

A CANNIBAL has become a social media star – with his posts about food and local eateries being favourites with online fans.

In 2003, Sumanto Gereng was arrested after the dismembered body of an OAP was discovered in his home in Purbalingga in Indonesia.

The horrific discovery revealed that Sumanto had tried to consume the

remains, having already feasted on two other victims while working

victims while working at a nearby sugar cane plantation.

At the time of his arrest, Sumanto said that consuming human flesh would grant him supernatural powers—

supernatural powers –
blaming black magic for
his twisted cravings.

His heinous acts led
to widespread horror,
and he was dubbed
"Indonesia's Hannibal
Lecter".

Despite his crimes,
Sumanto served just
three years in prison
and was released back
into society, where he
was promptly ostracised
by his local community.
Nearly 20 years after
his release, Sumanto

his release, Sumanto has made an unexpected return to the public eye. Known as Sumanto Known as Sumanto Gereng Reborn on Insta, he has since gained a

Dr Mulyasari, head of



following of over 18,000 social media users.

His account features a mix of daily inspirational quotes, meme-like vids, and light-hearted content in Indonesian.

In his latest post, Sumanto enjoys a bowl of a local delicacy, commenting: "Perfect with the weather... just leave funny comments, like me."

the An-Nur Haji Supono Mustajab Foundation ex-offenders charity, said: "We created a social media account for

**INFLUENCER: Sumanto** 

social media account for Sumanto, and it turned out that the public response was good."

Dr Mulyasari also said Sumanto's new persona aims to present a more "humane" side of him, adding: "He is now better, funnier, kinder, and more humane."



POLICE chiefs are calling for a change in the law to lower the drink drive limit after road fatalities soared to a 13-year high. The National Police

Chiefs Council and the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners want tougher laws to punish drivers who sup more than half a pint.

Chief constables are backing a zero-tolerance approach, changing procedures to allow cops to issue a ban at the roadside the moment

someone tests positive.
The proposed crackdown comes after doctors vowed to lobby ministers to almost halve the legal limit established in 1967. which is one of the highest in Europe.

The legal limit in England is currently 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood.







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## Noel 'health scare' threat to Bake Off

NOEL Fielding's future co-hosting *The Great British Bake Off* with Alison Hammond has

British Bake Off with Alison Hammond has reportedly been thrown into doubt over his mystery health issues. Concern has been rising for the comedian, 51 (above), who has co-presented the C4 series since 2017, after he abruptly pulled out of filming Apple TV comedy The Completely Made-Up Adventures of Dick Turpin, resulting in the show being axed. Now C4 bosses are in "crisis talks" as they work to save their most-watched show, which is due to begin filming its 16th series. A source said: "Time is of the essence as bosses need a degree of certainty about who will be fronting Bake Off. So much has to be put in place long before the cameras start rolling and producers are already geared up and ready to go.

rolling and producers are already geared up and ready to go.

"It is Channel 4's most-watched show, and is still one of the most popular in the UK – there's a lot riding on this.

"All those involved understand this is a health matter, but contingencies have to be put in place."

Noel previously co-hosted the baking competition with Sandi Toksvig and Matt Lucas.

## The joy of socks for cold OAPs

THE NHS has advised elderly people to wear socks in bed, to cope with chilly temperatures.

Eight cold weather Eight cold weather alerts have been issued by the UK Health Security Agency as mild conditions are replaced by freezing cold winter weather. "Make sure to always wear socks, slippers or shoes around the house. If your feet get cold at night, then go to bed

night, then go to bed wearing socks," the advice from Moulton Medical Centre in Lincolnshire said.

The health service has also advised people to encourage the elderly to wear a scarf around their mouths to protect them from cold air.

The elderly – and those who have been immunocompromised were also advised to wear multiple layers of clothing around the house.

The warnings come after the Labour Govern-ment withdrew the winter fuel allowance from all but the poorest OAPs in an attempt to plug what it says is a £22billion black hole in the public finances inherited from



# She 'hid victim's body parts under the bed' FACING 25 YEARS IN JAIL: Sandra Coto-Navarro (above) denies killing rent man Jose Portillo ( right)

A WOMAN killed a rent collector and hacked him up, then hid his body in rubbish bags under a bed, prosecutors claim.

Sandra Coto-Navarro, 48, has been charged with second-degree murder in the death of 55-year-old

been charged with second-degree murder in the death of 55-year-old Jose Portillo.

He was trying to collect £20,000 in unpaid rent from her and her husband, cops and prosecutors say.

Coto-Navarro — who was home alone in the Queens area of New York when she allegedly carried out the murder — is claimed to have used a pipe in the slaying and claimed it wouldn't be an issue because "her fingerprints won't be on it," according to cops and a criminal complaint.

A doctor from the city medical examiner's office determined that Portillo suffered "multiple blunt force trauma injuries" on his head, and that a "heavy object" was used to inflict those injuries, court papers say.

The doctor also found that the victim suffered "post-mortem sharp force injuries to his neck and left leg near the knee.

The owner of the property told.

near the knee.

The owner of the property told investigators he saw Portillo go into the couple's apartment on January 14,

news@sundaysport.co.uk

but never saw him leave. Portillo's brother requested a wellness check when his sibling still hadn't emerged. The first time an officer responded

to the couple's home, Coto-Navarro allegedly claimed Portillo was there earlier in the day, and that she paid him and he then left. But surveillance footage debunks

But surveillance footage debunks that story because it never shows him leaving, court documents say.

When the officer returned, the woman's husband – who was not charged in connection to the murder—led them "right to the body," a police source said.

Portillo's body was found tucked under the bed, wrapped in clothing

rortillos body was found tucked under the bed, wrapped in clothing and black bin bags, it's claimed. He was pronounced dead at the scene. The apartment smelled strongly of bleach and a mop could be seen in the

bedroom, with blood at the bottom of the bed and near a dresser, the court papers added.

Coto-Navarro faces 25 years to life behind bars if convicted. She has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

fell by around 10% last year as economic and political uncertainties affect consumer demand for the sparkling wine in key markets such as France and the US.

In July, the champagne producers association called for a cut in the number of grapes harvested this year after sales fell more than 15% in the first half of 2024.

Full year shipments were down 9.2% from 2023 at 271.4 million bottles, the Comite Champagne said.

The French market made up 118.2 million bottles - down 7.2% compared to 2023 which the association has put down to prevailing economic and political 'gloom" in the country.

# Bubbly loses its fizz in downturn CHAMPAGNE shipments fell by around 10% last

A MORTUARY worker has been jailed for 15
years for selling body parts – including a skull,
brain, arm, ear, several lungs, hearts, breasts,
a belly button, testicles and foetuses – to a
self-described "oddities collector".

Candace Scott, 37, sold the human remains
from the University of
Arkansas for Medical
Sciences Anatomical Gift
Programme to Jeremy Lee
Pauley, 42, a heavily-pierced
and tattooed Pennsylvania
man she met on a Facebook
group that "openly discussed
the sale of body parts".

At her sentencing, Judge
Brian Miller called her crimes
"some of the worst I've ever
seen" and sentenced Ross, of
Little Rock, for transporting
stolen human body parts and
conspiracy to commit fraud.
Last April, she pleaded
guilty to the charges.
Scott's disgusting deeds
occurred between October
2021 and July 15, 2022.
Pauley paid her around
£8,000 for 24 body part boxes.



.....Postcode..



## Tranny Nazi in call for a prison swap

A NEO-Nazi jailed for inciting hatred has turned tranny – in a bid to be transferred

bid to be transferred to a women's prison. Sven Liebich, 53 – who has ties to neo-Nazi party the Homeland and the far-right Alternative for Germany party – is serving an 18-month sentence in a men's jail in Saxony, Germany, after being convicted last year on hatred and defamation charges. defamation charges.

#### **Appealing**

But the right-wing extremist, who is in the process of appealing the sentence, recently changed identity and goes by the new name Marla-Svenja Liebich.

The convicted felon
(above) said in a
statement: "I am afraid
of discrimination."
A spokesperson for

A spokesperson for the local prosecutor's office said: "There is no automatic guarantee that a man will be sent to a women's prison after changing gender and name."

#### **TIKPLOP**

FED-up Maggie Trakas is being sued because she keeps throwing her own piss and shit at social fans who shoot videos outside her home in New York.









ANNA MARIA SIEKLUCKA

(365 DAYS)



## Dog woman found eaten by own pets

A WOMAN was eaten by her own dogs after

A WOMAN was eaten by her own dogs after she collapsed at home. The victim's brother, Alejandro Llanes, found the remains of Areles Llanes, 58, at her home in Cape Coral, Florida, after not hearing from her in weeks and at first thought the body parts were from "a pig". He told authorities: "There were no legs, no arms. It was like a big bag of skin. I was like, 'God, I can't believe what I'm looking at and seeing'. "It was not even the full body because there were no legs and no arms." Alejandro thinks his sister died from poor health before at some

sister died from poor health before, at some point, her three dogs started "eating her".

#### Wine

"What happened is she was not living a healthy life – drinking a lot of wine and not eating properly," he added. "She probably collapsed in the backyard and after like a week, those dogs that were hungry are animals. They need to survive. They just start eating her."

Alejandro added that dog faeces and filth covered the inside of his sister's home.

It is not immediately clear exactly when Areles died.

However, police are still probing her death and have said it is not thought to be suspicious.

Meanwhile, her three dogs are currently being evaluated by

dogs are currently being evaluated by local animal control authorities.

## **Fuel transfer** explosion – 70 blown up

AT least 70 people have died in north-central Nigeria after a petrol tanker exploded.

The blast happened near the Suleja area of Niger state after a group of people were trying to transfer gasoline from one tanker into another

truck using a generator. The fuel transfer resulting in the deaths of those transferring the petrol – and those of many bystanders – Hussaini Isah, of the National Emergency Management Agency, said in a statement.

Search and rescue

operations were underway, Isah added. There are frequent petrol explosions in Nigeria where chaotic locals seem to forget that the fuel is highly flammable.





The Love Island presenter, 30, received an inappropriate message on X asking her to "fart through a walkie-talkie" – which she

to "fart through a walkie-talkie" is said to be utterly horrified by. However, the feisty star hit back: "At some point someone has to stop their horny hubby brother/son tweeting after the pub."
Fans quickly took to the comments as they were also shocked by the social media post.

By ANI news@su it... the rare wild. Wild all time for the far well as they were also shocked by the social media post.

were also shocked by the social media post.

They wrote: "Well, it is niche – imagine just imagine sitting there and typing that out. Then thinking, 'Yup, that's great! I'll send that'. Unbelievable!

"And why through a walkie-talkie? Is that so he can't smell it'?

walkie-talkie? Is that so he can't smell it? "I'm embarrassed just

reading this!

CHLOE Madeley showed ex-husband James Haskell

what he's missing as she stripped down to her skimpy underwear in a very

skimpy underwear in a very racy instagram post.
As the retired rugby player, 39, moves on with mum-of-two Helen Barclay, curvy Chloe, 37, showed off her enviable figure in the sexy snap.
Chloe stuck her tongue out while flaunting her

out while flaunting her toned arse in a high-waisted black thong and sports bra. An Insta follower said:

"That's one fine trumper!"

"Some unusual people out there – to even think

By ANNE COATES news@sundaysport.co.uk

news@sundaysport.co.uk
it... the replies you get
are wild. Creative... but
wild all the same!"
The farting comment
came after a snap of
Maya dancing on The
Masked Singer was
shared on X.
Last night a pal of the
star said: "Saying that
you would like to hear
a lady fart through a
walkie-talkie is gross.
"As everyone knows, if
you want to signal your
appreciation of a woman
you write, 'I'd crawl over
a mile of broken glass
to listen to you piss in a
tin cup'. Simples."







# YING HIM destroying BACK IN THE WHITE HOUSE: Trump at his inauguration on Monday

you're reading this, then it means Donald Trump didn't

blow up the planet yesterday.
Which may have come as a bit of a nice surprise, considering everything we have been told he's

going to do.

"Destroying democracy" is his aim, according to detractors – despite him having just being democratically elected into office by millions of Americans.

Americans.
Sigh.
Like here in the UK, American "democracy" is only really considered a decent, upright thing when lefties win an election.
When those pesky voters put anyone else in the driver's seat (and it's the main reason why it nearly always is someone else), lefties immediately weep and wail that the world is going to end – and very possibly right this very second.
(See also: Brexit and climate crisis/emergency/Armageddon).

emergency/Armageddon).
It's as predictable as it is boring, and spectacularly stupid.

#### **Playground**

"Destroying democracy" has now joined the list of things thick lefties shout when – as they always do – run out of argument and descend into the playground.

When Trump isn't being a fascist, or a sexist, or a warmonger, or a cheat, or a Cyborg, or the Devil, he's a man ruthlessly out to "destroy democracy" by, erm... seeking people's votes.

And he ruthlessly achieved that ruthless fascist result by running against first a senile old duffer, and then a donkey-braying idiot, both of whom were put forward for election by the Democrats in the US.

In the end, Trump faced not one but two of their presidential candidates.

And thrashed the pair of them at

And thrashed the pair of them at the ballot box.
That's not destroying democracy.

It's enforcing it. Besides, just fancy that – a new

boss wants to run things differently than the old boss.

He thinks the old boss was shit on toast and he wants to swap that topping for marmalade and preferably

topping for marmalade and preferably a tangy preserve of which our late Queen would have approved.

It's like Keir Starmer entering into No 10 – I know, it feels like ten yawning years ago – and immediately scrapping the Rwanda scheme to deter illegals entering this country.

It's also just like his decision, in cahoots with his weirdo Chancellor Bachel from Accounts, to scrap winter

Rachel from Accounts, to scrap winter fuel payments for OAPs, clobber bosses with National Insurance rises, pay a foreign country £9billion for giving them one of our own territories, pissing off America in the process, and lobbing billions of borrowed pounds we don't have to members of unions whose members just happen to vote

for them en masse.

None of that was mentioned in the

None of that was mentioned in the Labour manifesto for government.

Isn't THAT destroying democracy? It's just like Biden when he took over from Trump after his first time in the Oval Office.

Except it isn't "just like" Joe Biden or Keir Starmer, is it?

It never is when the lefties score one of their fleetingly rare victories.

Biden, you see, was there to "restore democracy", while The Donald is there to "destroy" it, even though both of them have done exactly the same thing by following their own creed.

If Trump manages to avoid any more assassination attempts and achieves his aim to "Make America Great Again", then fair play.

And if he fails, he'll get turfed out by the people in four years' time and someone else will be brought in to replace him.

Because that's how this stuff works for EVERYONE – left or right.

It's called democracy.
And it's as alive and well in the US as it is here in the UK.

EMAIL ME: justin@sundaysport.co.uk FOLLOW ME ON TWITTER: @







## Mother left son chained up in cellar

A MUM was held after she left her 11-year-old son handcuffed in a

son handcuffed in a basement while she went out to work.
Chazzity Candelario, 33 (above), told police she'd often restrain her son for up to two hours or lock him in a small utility cupboard at their home in Lebanon, Pennsylvania – saving Pennsylvania – saying she had a difficult time controlling her children while she was working. Lebanon County District Attorney

Pier Hess Graf said:
"This is abuse. Leaving a kid from 5am to 10pm chained or handcuffed

chained or handcuffed

it's horrifying."

Officers from the
Lebanon County
Regional Police Department went to the home
after receiving a report
a child was restrained
to a bed.

There, they found the
lad handcuffed to the
top railing of a bunk

lad handcuffed to the top railing of a bunk bed. He told cops his mum had shackled him to a post in the cellar where he managed to

where he managed to get free before then accidentally cuffing himself to the bed. The child also said his mother would often handcuff his leg to a fuel tank in the basement for hours. Candelario, who is being held at a local jail, faces charges including endangering the welfare of a child.

## Rats getting high on US cops' supply

DRUGGED-up rats are gobbling up marijuana and magic mushrooms stored as evidence at police stations – potentially putting hundreds of cases in jeopardy.

John Whitmire, mayor

of Houston, Texas, said: "Just one example – we've got 400,000lbs of marijuana in storage that the rats are the only ones enjoying." The problem is so

serious that the district attorney for Houston has alerted defence attorneys in more than 3,600 open drug-related cases, and given police permission to destroy drug evidence from cleared cases from before 2015.

Joshua Reiss, general

counsel at the Harris County District Attorney, said the pests got into marijuana as well as packaging containing hallucinogenic shrooms. While the rodents may

be going big in Texas, it's a bigger problem in the US, Reiss reckons. He said: "Narcotics

evidence rooms and evidence rooms in general that are filled to the brim with old evidence - it's a







#### Dear Sam,

I'M a reasonably good-looking 28-year-old single bloke – I recently divorced my miserable wife – and I work in a factory with lots of women, many of whom are married.

I really fancy one of them, a 35-year-old attractive blonde with a fantastic figure, and she's always up for a laugh.

We spend a lot of time together, enjoying a bit of banter and often talking really dirty to each other, and I've reached the point where I'm gagging to give her one.

The other morning we were chatting at the vending machine and the talk mache'd had a dress what they are heart to a key a property as the gring her acceptance and

she told me she'd had a dream about me shagging her senseless in

But I'm scared of asking her for sex in case she was only joking and knocks me back – before telling all the other women.

What do you reckon?

GS, Lancs

Sam says...
SOUNDS to me like she'd be up for it, so go ahead and take the plunge.

#### Dear Sam,

I'M an 18-year-old girl at college. I'm blonde, 5ft 8in tall with a trim figure and big boobs and I've had loads of snogs with lads my age but

they all seem so immature.

One of my lecturers is really hot and a few weeks ago I lost my virginity to him after he offered me private tuition.

He spent the evening at his flat carefully going though my revision notes but ended up leading me upstairs and making love to me in his

I'm not complaining because he was such a caring lover but I don't think I should go round again.

I thought he genuinely wanted to help me, but my pal says the lecturer has a reputation for this sort of thing and only wanted to get in my knickers.

Who is right?

TB, Nottingham

Sam says...

I'LL give it to you straight, don't be so naive!

## Tall man banged me long and hard on car park table

## Dear Sam,

I RECENTLY started a new job and there is a tall, fit bloke works

and there is a tail, fit bloke works in the accounts office there.

Last week we had a party in a local pub as we all celebrated a huge new order that had come in.

So I went along with one of the girls I sit with. Me and my pal were soon very tipsy and decided to tease the tail man.

He was up for a bit of fun, so we got him outside in the car park, under the pretext of just having a smoke.

There was no-one else around so I was quickly on him, kissing him with tongues and undoing his silk shirt.

Then my pal unzipped his

him with too his silk shirt.

Then my pal unzipped his trousers and let his massive cock spring out. It was eight inches

long and I knelt down and started

long and I knelt down and started licking and sucking it.

My friend then lifted her skirt and pulled her knickers aside so that he could finger her.

I sat on a wooden table and he shafted me roughly until I orgasmed.

I sucked him hard again so that he could hang my nal

The problem is that the next day my mate told all the other girls at work what we'd done with

Now I'm terrified we'll both get the sack.What do you think?

DK, Weymouth

#### Sam says...

THAT'S the risk you run by being too frisky at office parties. Just don't do it again!

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# <u>Amazing lover has</u>

#### Dear Sam.

I AM an attractive divorcee in my early **Since** husband left I hardly go out, but a friend encouraged me to socialise more.

It was on a night at my local social club that I met my man. We hit it off from the beginning, although I was a bit cautious when it came to sex.

But after a lovely dinner and a few drinks, I invited

him back to my place.

His foreplay was wonderful. He teased me with his fingers and then his agile tongue played against my clitoris until I was begging him to enter me.

#### Suspicious

He thrust deeply inside me, making me squeal with delight, and I watched with ever increasing ecstasy his big cock sliding in and out of me.

And when we reached orgasm he was so big and hard I felt the whole of me being filled.

Afterwards we lay in each other's

Afterwards we lay in each other's arms, then he apologised for not being ole to stay.
I was a bit suspicious, thinking maybe

he was married.
When I cleared up the clothes I'd left

agony@sundaysport.co.uk

Mail: Agony, Sunday

Sport, 860 Chester

Road, Stretford,

behind, I was puzzled when I couldn't find my panties but decided it was nothing to worry about.

The next time he came round we took

things more leisurely, undressing each other in the dim light of the bedside I was already naked as I came to lower

his trousers. Underneath, to my shock, he was wearing my knickers, stretched to the limit by the most enormous

He laughed and said he wore them to remind him of me, but again I was left

feeling slightly uneasy.
That soon passed as he again softened
me up with his amazing foreplay.
He gently nibbled on my erect nipples

before easing his tongue all the way down my body to tease my aching fanny. Finally, he raised my legs high in the air and thrust hard into me.

We had the most wonderful sex and

he brought me to the brink of climax over

and over.

A few days later we met again and this

time I pressed him to show me his home.

He seemed a bit reticent but he agreed.

He lives in a very well-kept apartment which he bought after splitting with his

In his bedroom I could not help but

notice a partly open drawer and inside were about 20 pairs of silky smalls.

When I confronted him, he admitted that he liked to keep and wear mementos of past lovers.

Now I feel I could be discarded just as easily. Am I worrying too much?

SD. Sussex

SD, Sussex

#### Sam says...

I WOULDN'T worry. He obviously loves his women and just has a harmless little fetish.

## Manager's win bonus is sex with the team

#### Dear Sam.

A MATE of my wife has set up a football team. Because I'm a former semi-pro, she asked if I would manage them.

I agreed, but to be honest I wasn't looking forward

I agreed, but to be honest I wasn't looking forward to it. I thought they'd be a bunch of ugly lesbos. I couldn't have been more wrong. When I got to the first training session, I saw all these fit birds. After our first match I gave my strikers, two gorgeous 18-year-old blondes, a lift. It wasn't long before one of them was sucking my cock while the other took her clothes off. I ended up shagging both of them.

Since then I've scored with most of the team. The

centre-half loves anal sex, while the right winger loves to be tied up and taken from behind.

The skipper invites me round to talk tactics. This usually involves us watching porn videos of her having sex with her husband and his mates.

She then gets changed into her football kit, complete with shin pads and boots, and gives me a blowjob.

Then she takes her kit off, but leaves her boots on,

and rides me.

The only problem is that my wife now wants to join the team. Obviously, I don't want her finding out about my 'team bonding' sessions. What should I do?

KD. Newcastle

Sam says...

TELL your wife her idea is offside.

#### Dear Sam,

I'M a plumber and I've lost count of the women who've offered me sex in their

For some reason they seem obsessed with my tools and can't wait to get

hold of my plunger.
One woman asked to be taken from behind with a loo seat over her head and another took an unhealthy interest in a U-bend.

But now I'm a little bit more choosy about whose waterworks I check.

Generally, birds in posh houses are the most horny. They often have a lot of time on their hands as their

husbands work long hours.
I remember installing a
bath for a woman in a select area of town.

Within minutes she reached into my sack and started playing with my

blonde from behind, had my dick sucked, and then watched her masturbate with the plunger.

On another occasion I went to a house to plumb in a washer when I was greeted by two sexy brunettes in their 30s. It wasn't long before I

was shagging one doggy-style while the other licked her mate out. My job is the best. Do

WF, Dorset

Sam says...

YES. But be careful you don't wear out that plunger!

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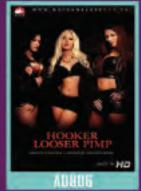






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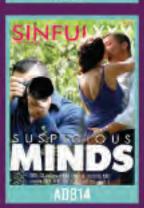


























































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## ADULT CHAT









## CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
  4. Antenna (6)
  7. Learned (8)
  8. Large wine bottle (6)
  10. Watch band (5)
  13. Conceal (4)
  14. To capsize (4)
  15. Information (4)
  16. Flat marshy land (3)
  17. Row (4)
  19. Manner of walking (4)
  21. Soft cheese (9)
  23. Atmosphere (4)
  24. Merge (4)

- 23. Atmosphere (4)
  24. Merge (4)
  26. Social insect (3)
  27. Excess supply (4)
  29. Unguis (4)
  32. Pare (4)
  33. Big (5)
  34. Sulky (6)
  35. Famished (8)

- 36. Renowned (6)

#### **DOWN**

- DOWN
  1. Booth (5)
  2. Ablaze (5)
  3. Grasp (4)
  4. Let in (5)
  5. Fury (4)
  6. Charm (6)
  9. Proverbs (6)
  11. Number (3)
- 9. Proverbs (6)
  11. Number (3)
  12. Communion table (5)
  13. Injurious (7)
  15. Scottish river (3)
  16. Seizure (3)
  18. Mental pictures (6)
  20. Stadium (5)
  21. Incision (3)

- 22. However (3) 23. Mohair (6) 25. Concert, informally (3)
- 28. Looks lasciviously (5) 30. Inert gas (5) 31. Dog's lead (5) 32. Sport (4) 33. Sediment (4)

- 1. WHERE in the U.S. did Donald Trump's presidential inauguration take place on Monday? a) New York b) Chicago c) Washington DC

- c) Washington d) Los Angeles
- 2. WHICH social media app was back and ready to use again after a
  one-day ban for US users?
  a) Facebook
  b) TikTok
- c) Instagram d) X
- 3. WHICH co-presenter of The Great British Bake Off sparked health fears after they pulled out of filming for Apple TV's The Completely Made-Up Adventures of Dick Turpin?
  a) Paul Hollywood b) Alison Hammond c) Prue Leith

- d) Noel Fielding
- 4. AROUND 14 million customers and tens of thousands of staff are at risk after which banking giant threatened to quit

- the UK?
  a) HSBC
  b) Santander
  c) Bank of Ireland
  d) Bank of China
- 5. WHICH high street retailer will shut 17 of its stores over the coming months, after a string of

Affre; 3. Grip; 4. Admit; 5. Rage; 6. Amulet 9. Adages; 11. Ten; 9. Adages; 12. Ten; 12. Affar; 13. Hamful; 12. Lucu; 22. But; 23. Angora; 26. Glg; 32. Leesti; 30. Afgor; 32. Leesti; 30. Afgor; 33. Leesti; 30. Afgor;

## 8. WHO stars in a new IVF documentary for C4

95. Ravenous; 36. Famous. CROSSWORD

7. Informed; 8. Magnum;
To, Strap; 13. Hide;
Td, Keel; 12. Data;
Td, Keel; 12. Her;
Td, Fen; 17. Tler;
Te, Fan; 24. Fuse;
Se, Ani; 32. Peel;
Se, Ani; 32. Peel;
Se, Ani; 54. Morose;
Se, Ani; 56. Fanous.

CROSSWORD

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6	8					3		
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		4		5	7		6	
	5		3		1	8		

## closures last year? a) WHSmith b) Boots c) Poundland d) Vanes411

- d) Vapes4U
- 6. WHICH British soap is said to be "in crisis" after 22 actors left last year and five more are set to exit within weeks?
  a) Albion Market
  b) EastEnders
  c) Hollyoaks
- d) Coronation Street
- 7. AS teenage darts whizz Luke Littler turned 18 this week, how much has it been revealed he's banked
- so far in his career?
  a) £500,000
  b) £1million
  c) £1.5million
  d) £2.5million
- a) Sorry! b) 'Allo 'Allo! c) Love Thy Neighbour d) Birds of a Feather 10. WHAT popular snack has high street bakers Greggs urgently had to recall over a "health risk" - warning customers "do not eat"?
  a) Steak bake b) Vegan sausage roll c) Pepperoni pizza d) Jam doughnut

called Making Babies, in

which she tries to have her sixth child? a) Kerry Katona b) Katie Price c) Danniella Westbrook d) Stacey Solomon

Quirke, 65, has revealed she has been diagnosed with dementia. Name the sitcom she starred in.

9. ACTRESS Pauline

#### **ANSWERS**











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### **CUTE BASIES WILL DO ANYTHING FOR CA**



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snaps of the babes you most want to see
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RETIRED civil servant Kenneth Bolton is a regular reader of the Sport and one of many readers who responed to Vikki Thomas appearing on these pages recently. Kenneth, 72, from Liverpool, reckons Westonsuper-Mare beauty Vikki's 36DD boobs are still the best.

boobs are still the best.

He said: "It can get quite lonely and boring by myself, but I try to keep occupied.
"I read the Sport three times a week and no other girl but Sam really does it for me."

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ARTISTIC STAR can feel the benefit of his recent return run as he lines up in the Try Unibet's New Improved Acca Boosts Handicap at Kempton.

The five-year-old was highly tried during his Classic year, finishing seventh in the Derby at Epsom before coming home third in the King Edward VII Stakes at Royal Ascot and placing Royal Ascot and placing fourth in Goodwood's Gordon Stakes and the Great Voltigeur at York. He proved a way short of that kind of level but after being middled at the model.

that kind of level but after being gelded at the end of the 2023 campaign, there was some promise in his initial fifth in the Gordon Richards Stakes last April, but he was then off the track until running at Southwell in late November. Given the length of his

absence, it was no surprise to see him drop away at the finish after trying to make all against race-fit rivals, but that outing should have

### By MIKE FRANCIS

knocked off any rust and a 2lb ease from 2lb ease from the handicapper is another plus

in his favour.

Kiniro starts handicap life on a reasonable mark of 79 for Harry Charlton.

He was sent off a 100-1 shot on debut and duly. Finished

duly finished down the field but he ran much better second he ran much better second time out when fourth at time out when fourth at Newcastle in December before making another leap forward at Lingfield earlier this month.

Kiniro was a surprise winner that day, as he edged out a 1-6 f a v o u r i t e, seemingly with a bit in hand, and a repeat when upped to seven furlongs in the Unibet Zero% Mission Handicap should be good enough.

Naughty Eyes gets the nod in the Weekly Free Bets

 ${\bf BetMGM}$ Extra With Restricted Novice Stakes at

Restricted Novice Stakes at Lingfield.
Winner of a maiden on debut, she could not follow up on her second start when letting down favourite backers as she trailed home third, beaten over six lengths after slightly missing the break and lacking a bit of pace in a five-furlong finish.

Having won

furlong finish.

Having won
over six, it
perhaps makes
sense to now give
her a whirl at
seven furlongs.
Ridin Solo can
make his mark in
the Racing TV
Profits Returned
To Racing
Handicap Hurdle
at Catterick.

Handicap Hurdle at Catterick.

He has only once finished out of the places in six hurdles runs so far, taking home the bronze medal on each of his last three runs, most recently at Sedgefield.

His current mark of 105 looks competitive for Donald

McCain. Jarrive De Mee is of clear interest for Willie Mullins in the Go Racing In Yorkshire Season Ticket Novices' Hurdle.

Novices Hurdle.

A point-to-point winner in
April 2024, he got off the
mark under rules at Thurles
in November in a race that
has produced two
subsequent winners.

### SELECTIONS

CATTERICK: 1.08 Champagnesuperover, 1.38 Jarrive De Mee, 2.08 Batman For Ever, 2.38 Ridin Solo, 3.08 Mr Mahler, 3.38 Sea Legend, 4.08 Dilly's Gunner.

Sea Legenti, 4.00 bitty 5 dunier. KEMPTON: 5.30 Sound Janet, 6.00 Egoiste, 6.30 Zeus Olympios, 7.00 Midsummer Music, 7.30 Kiniro, 8.00 ARTISTIC STAR

Music, 7.30 Kiniro, 6.00 Artistic Sian (NAP), 8.30 Comte De Loir. LINGFIELD: 12.25 Foreseen, 12.55 Naughty Eyes, 1.25 Merrimack, 1.55 Majestic Heights, 2.25 Ragraaq, 2.55 Lequinto, 3.25 Royal Observatory, 3.55

Rivas Rob Roy.

SHADOW Of Light is set to go straight to the 2000 Guineas after being crowned the Champion Two-Year-Oldof 2024, giving Godolphin and Charlie Appleby their third such success in the last six seasons. Appleby's Pinatubo topped the ratings in 2019

with a magnificent mark of 128 and Native Trail led the way for Moulton Paddocks in 2021 on 122.

in 2021 on 122.

A ranking of 120 was good enough for Shadow Of Light to edge out exceptional filly Lake Victoria by one point, having completed a rare Middle Park-Dewhurst Group One double.

The son of Lope De Vega won his opening two starts at Yarmouth and Newmarket before finishing second in

at Yarmouth and Newmarket before finishing second in the Gimcrack at York.

He stepped up to a different level when landing the Middle Park by four lengths and returned to Headquarters to shade Expanded by a neck in the Dewhurst, when trying seven furlongs for the first time.

Appleby said: "We're definitely going to try to see if Shadow Of Light stays the if Shadow Of Light stays the mile and we'll probably go straight into the Guineas, I don't want to test him over the mile beforehand, firstly timing-wise and secondly I'd rather keep the dream alivegoingintothe Guineas."



NICKY HENDERSON

### **Palladium** can put on good show

### THURSDAY TIPS

ALL eyes will be on Palladium when he makes his jumping debut in the second division of the Pertemps Network Maiden

Hurdle at Huntingdon.
The four-year was
previously trained on the Flat in Germany by Henk Grewe, winning at Group One level when taking the German Derby over a mile

and a half last season.

He was sold for €1.4m to
Lady Bamford and transferred to Nicky Henderson, for whom he makes his hurdles debut

over two miles.

He is in expert hands and has an unusual profile as a Group One-winning colt running over hurdles, ability that should make him the horse to beat if he takes to the task.

On the same card, Henderson and Nico De Boinville can team up again with Shanagh Bob in the Pertemps Network Handicap Hurdle.

The seven-year-old has made his last two starts over fences and troubled the judge on neither occasion, but his prior hurdling form is notable. He won the Grade Two

Albert Bartlett trial as a five-year-old and was then fourth in the Sefton at Novices' Hurdle at Aintree, the latter being his most recent run over the smaller obstacles.

He returns to the discipline at Huntingdon and sets a high bar if back at the level he was competing at over hurdles

in the past. At Wetherby, Chart Topper can make the journey from Ireland worthwhile in the Follow @ racingtv On Instagram EBF "National Hunt" Novices'

Hurdle.
The six-year-old comes from the stable of Willie Mullins to be ridden by his son and assistant Patrick. a hint in itself as neither neither horse nor jockey will be undertaking the trip for nothing.

### SELECTIONS

HUNTINGDON: 12.12 Nap Hand, 12.47 Palladium, 1.20 Flamelco, 1.55 Salley Gardens, 2.30 SHANAGH BOB (NAP), 3.05 Celtic Fortune, 3.40 Kosasiempre, 4.13 Diamonds Galore. NEWCASTLE: 12.41 Humble Spark, 1.11 Lady Of The Garr, 1.46 Cloch Nua, 2.21 Sir Maxi, 2.56 Mondammej, 3.31 Rainbow Nebula, 4.06 Stroxx. SOUTHWELL: 5.00 Blast The Dream, 5.30 Manara, 6.00 Ash Wednesday, 6.30 Valadero, 7.00 Hitched, 7.30 Dark Kestrel, 8.00 Kiss Me My Love, 8.30 Addnsh

WETHERBY: 12.25 Melon, 12.55 Chart Topper, 1.30 Eaton Collina, 2.05 Elle Est Beau, 2.40 Largy Force, 3.15 Boolamore Classic, 3.50 Paddy



### T'S MILLER TIME

has delivered a withering assessment of the Rhinos assessment or the minima second straight season without a Super League play-off berth and admitted he sometimes "let the team down" as he struggled to adapt after his move from

to adapt after his move from Australia. Big things had been expected at Headingley of the former Cronulla Sharks and Newcastle Knights star after joining Leeds on a three-year deal ahead of their 2024 campaign. But the Australian's early

inconsistency mirrored a desperate start by his side that led to the departure of head coach Rohan Smith and another failure to challenge for

silverware.

But Miller's sixth-place
ranking in the annual Man of
Steel awards is testament to his
improvement in the second half
of the season under Smith's

replacement Brad Arthur.
And the 30-year-old believes
the lessons learned from recent disappointments will help make the imminent 2025 campaign a distinctly more positive

experience.
Miller told Midweek Sport: "I
definitely have a lot of

RUGBY LEAGUE

improvement to make this year in cutting out the errors and inconsistency that can creep in

sometimes.
"I was often very up and down and I need to reach that top level each week. I felt like I let the team down every now and

"It's the same for the whole team and since Brad came in he has given us some accountability and belief which has been good. "The standards of training

have picked up and with the fitness and strength that comes with that, the standard of our squad is far better than it was

last year."
Leeds reacted quickly to last season's disappointment by bringing back former star Ryan Hall after a superb spell with Hull KR, and the 37-year-old will joined on the flanks by fellow new boy Maika Sivo with last year's top performer Ash Handley dropping inside to centre.

Another addition in the shape of former Huddersfield Giants full-back Jake Connor adds more experience to a squad

that, for all its admirable promotion of young players like Alfie Edgell, Riley Lumb and Jack Sinfield under Smith, was

occasionally left feeling a little lightweight. Miller, who could miss the Rhinos' opening Super League tle against Wakefield next month after sitting out much of pre-season with a hamstring injury, is relishing the different dynamic the respective arrivals of the likes of Hall and Connor will give to the squad.

### Play-offs

"They bring lots of experience and leadership and I think that will help us because last season being quite a young team could sometimes be a weakness," added Miller. "The squad has an extra season of experience now.

"We're aware we haven't reached the play-offs for the last two seasons, but I don't feel any pressure and I'm pretty sure no-one else does in this

"We're confident in the work we've been doing in this pre-season, and we know what we need to do to win more games this season."

INJURED: George

### **Injuries** hit **England** as Ireland lie in wait

**RUGBY UNION** 

**ENGLAND** have been struck by an injury crisis less than a fortnight before the Six Nations with vice-captain Jamie George heading a list of withdrawals from Steve Borthwick's squad.

Scrum-half Alex Mitchell is a doubt for the opener against Ireland on Feb 1 but his likely replacement Jack Van Poortvliet, second row Alex Coles and number eight Alex Dombrandt have joined George in being definitively ruled out.

George suffered a hamstring problem in Saracens' defeat by Castres, continuing a frustrating seven days for the 34-year-old that began when he was demoted as England captain with his club colleague Maro Itoje chosen as his successor.

He was picked on the bench for the European fixture in north London and having come on as a replacement in the third quarter, he was forced off by his damaged hamstring. His absence will see Dan

and Luke Cowan-Dickie compete at number two. Northampton scrum-half Mitchell sustained a knee problem against Munster on Saturday but could yet feature against Ireland.

A neck problem ruled him out of the autumn series and his return is seen as key to hopes of causing an upset in Dublin. "Alex should be fit next

week. It's modified training and personal rehabilitation this week," Borthwick said.

A costly weekend of

European action has also accounted for Coles and Dombrandt.

Ben Spencer and Raffi Quirke have been called up as half-back cover, while Curtis Langdon, Arthur Clark and Henry Pollock fill

in the pack.
Itoje will take charge of England for the first time on Saturday week. One of the team's few

world-class players, Itoje wants the leadership duties to elevate his game even higher.

"I hope me having this role doesn't change how I play. I still want to be as aggressive as I can and I still want to have a high output," he said.

"It's a huge honour. It's a massive, massive privilege. Some great players have had this role in the past for England. I hope to follow in their footsteps. "England have potential

to do well and win against all the teams. We want to fulfil our potential."

### <u>land want Ben to go big in opening T20</u>

CRICKET By NED TRUEMAN

**ENGLAND** are backing Ben Duckett to be their opener for all formats as the busy left-hander will accompany the brawny Phil Salt at the top of the order for today's first T20 against India.

Ducketthas been England's tone-setter in Tests and nailed down a spot in the ODI side with a series of eyecatching displays against Australia at the back end of

last summer. While he has a dozen T20 caps, Duckett has not opened in the format for England since his debut in 2019 but a vacancy has arisen with Jos Buttler staying at number three and Will Jacks out of the squad.

Duckett mav lack explosiveness explosiveness but shows intentthroughhis 360-degree strokeplay and proficiency on the sweep, and the left-hander could be England's answer to Australia's David Warner going forwards.

"I think he's been playing

brilliantly well in all formats of the game," England captain Buttler said of the 30-vear-old.

"You look at someone in England cricket now who could open the innings in every format of the game, it's credit to the way he's played

over the last few years and he fully deserves his chance. "He's got an excellent reputation against spin but reputation against spin but he has even more options in the powerplay. With only two fieldersout, he'sanincredibly tough guy to defend against with all the different areas that he can hit the ball.

"I think it's something that's going to really suit his game and we're all really excited for it."

With Buttler deciding to continue pulling the strings

With Buttler deciding to continue pulling the strings in the outfield after doing so against the West Indies before Christmas, Salt has edged out Jamie Smith for the wicketkeeper's spot for England's first T20 at Eden Gardens since their against defect in Gardens since agonising defeat in the 2016 World Twenty20 final by the West Indies. It also officially

marks the start of the Brendon McCullum's tenure as England's head coach in as Englandes nead coach in all formats. Upon his appointment last year, McCullum remarked Buttler looked "a bit miserable at times" during England's surrender of both white-ball World Cups in the last 18

But the chance to work with former New Zealand

captain McCullum, has who has revolutionised England's Test team, is one Buttler is relishing.

"I'vebeen practising my smile in front of s a jokingly.

presents

Christmas

have been sort of egged in that way, but I feel in a really good place. I'm excited.

"I was a Brendon McCullum fan as a player, and would have always loved to play with him.
"I have a lot of admiration for what he did with New Zealand.
"He's rea"

aland.

"He's really great mates
with (former England
captain) Eoin Morgan,
who is one of my good
friends, so I got to know him through him and through various franchise tournaments we were both in at the same time. "It's a strong relationship and I'm really excited to develop a professional coach and captain relationship.

"I've been really energised by it and I'm looking forward to this moment ever since it was mentioned that Baz could become the white-ball coach as well."

McCullum is looking to bring his philosophy, dubbed 'Bazball', to improve England's ailing limited-overs sides and they will take the attack to India with four genuine quicks in Mark Wood, Jofra Archer, Jamie Overton and Gus

Jamie Overton and Gus Atkinson.

Liam Livingstone and Jacob Bethell will supplement front-line spinner Adil Rashid, while Harry Brook will act as Buttler's deputy, having led England in a 3-2 ODI series defeat by Australia last year.

### **Positive**

"He's got all the attributes you need to be be a captain," Buttler added of the

Yorkshireman.

"He's someone I will lean on for advice on the field and

get his point of view.
"Certainly the way Harry
plays his cricket, watching
him from the side captain
against Australia, he was as positive a captain as I've ever

"We want to be watchable, really exciting and be an aggressive team that wants to take the game on at all times."



SPURS have slumped to 15th in the Premier League after their horror run of form continued with a 3-2 loss at Everton. but manager Ange Postecoglou retains the

support of the board. Spurs' 12th defeat of the league campaign made it five losses from their last six fixtures in the division

to spark relegation fears. Here, Midweek Sport looks at what has gone wrong for the north London club.

### WHAT'S BEHIND THE SLUMP?

Tottenham were without 10 players for Sunday's latest poor result, with leading scorers Dominic Solanke and Brennan Solanke and Brennan Johnsonthenewest members

Johnson the newest members in the treatment room.
Player availability has hampered the club throughout the last two months, with first-choice defenders Cristian Romero and Micky van de Ven only able to make one appearance since December.
Further selection issues mean Archie Gray, just 18 and predominantly a midfielder, has started the last 11 fixtures in the unfamiliar role of centreback.

### WHY SO MANY INJURIES?

Eyebrows were raised when Postecoglou brought back Romero and Van de Ven to start the 4-3 loss to Chelsea on December 8 in what appeared a risk. It backfired

on Postecoglou as both failed to finish the clash and they are not due back until later this month, but he has also been dealt a fair share of bad

Goalkeeper Guglielmo Vicario fractured his ankle in November and Rodrigo Bentancur's seven-match domestic suspension arrived during the busiest time of the

season. A lack of alternatives has meant available players have been run into the ground amid a period of 14 fixtures since December 1 where Spurs have only won four times.

### CAN JANUARY HELP?

Postecoglou acknowledged in December they needed reinforcements and has repeated it in most press repeated it in most press conferences since, but Tottenham's only addition has been goalkeeper Antonin Kinsky. Kinsky made an immediate impression with a fine debut in a 1-0 victory over Liverpool in the first leg of the Carabao Cup semi-final. However, Postecoglou has seen the club's efforts to

bring in more players fall on

bring in more players fall on deaf ears so far and he is now without Solanke and Johnson for the foreseeable future.

The pair are third and fourth in terms of minutes played for Spurs this season, but with games every three days, Postecoglou's ability to manage game time has been manage game time has been compromised by a list of absentees which has frequently been double figures since November.

### HOW IS ANGE STILL IN A JOB?

It is easy to forget but ottenham were sixth and

only three points off Arsenal

after a remarkable 4-0 win at Manchester City on November 23.

That victory was the calm before the storm and, while results have deteriorated at the storm and the storm results have deteriorated at analarmingrate, Postecoglou has masterminded cup successes over Manchester United and Liverpool amid a crippling list of absentees. It is thought there is an understanding amongst the club board over the current

injury crisis. Nevertheless, results Nevertheless, results must improve and Postecoglou and Spurs will aim to arrest their slump during a key week where a Europa League trip to Hoffenheim on Thursday is followed by Sunday's visit of lowly Leigester. lowly Leicester.

### WHAT CAN POSTECOGLOU

### DO TO TURN IT AROUND?

Tottenham will need more from their senior figures, with captain Son Heung-min only able to score once in his last eight appearances, while his deputy in James

last eight appearances, while his deputy in James Maddison has not fared much better.

Dejan Kulusevski and the now-injured Solanke have emerged with credit. With Solanke absent, Postecoglou will turn to recently fit-again Richarlison, who scored on Sunday Teapagar prespects. Richarlison, who scored on Sunday. Teenager prospects Gray and Lucas Bergvall have also stepped up and Postecoglou will look to them, alongside 17-year-old attacker Mikey Moore, to provide a spark over the next week.

**RECALL: Scarlett** 

### SPURS BRING SCARLETT HOME

TOTTENHAM have recalled striker Dane Scarlett from his loan spell at Oxford following the loss of Dominic Solanke to

a knee injury.
England Under-21
international Scarlett scored
four goals in 20 Championship

appearances for the U's.
According to Spurs head
coach Ange Postecoglou, clubrecord signing Solanke is set to be sidelined for "a few weeks" with an issue which caused him to miss Sunday's 3-2 Premier League loss at

Everton.
Scarlett was restricted to just seven starts in the second tier this term, having moved to the Kassam Stadium on a season-long deal in August. He briefly became the

youngest player in Tottenham's

history when, aged 16 years and 247 days, he was brought on by Jose Mourinho in a 4-0 Europa League victory against Ludogorets in November 2020.

The 20-year-old academy graduate has made 17 senior appearances for Spurs, with his Premier League debut coming as a substitute in a 2-0 win over West Brom in 2021.

Scarlett was loaned to Portsmouth in League One for the 2022-23 season, before spending part of last term with Ipswich

Tottenham, who sit 15th in the top flight following defeat at Goodison Park, travel to German club Hoffenheim in the Europa League on Thursday before hosting relegation-threatened Leicester on

### 1911: The inaugural Monte Carlo Rally got under wav.

1974: Millwall beat Fulham 1-0 at The Den in the first **Football League** match ever to take place on a Sunday.

- 1984: Swimmer and 'Tarzan' actor Johnny Weissmuller died aged 79. The first man to swim 100 metres in under one minute, he won five gold medals at the Olympic Games in 1924 and 1928. After his swimming career he went on to star in 12 Hollywood Tarzan films
- 1987: MotoGP rider Marco Simoncelli was born. The Italian died on October 23, 2011 after an accident during the Malaysian Grand Prix.
- 1990: John McEnroe defaulted his fourthround match against Mikael Pernfors at the Australian Open after receiving code violations for glaring at a line judge, smashing a racket and swearing at a tournament official.
- 2001: England defender Tony Adams announced his international retirement at the age of 34 after winning 66 caps.
- 2003: Michael Owen, then with Liverpool, admitted running up gambling losses of between £30.000 and £40,000.
- 2006: Arsenal signed 16-year-old forward Theo Walcott from Southampton for an initial five million pounds.
- 2009: England and Bath prop Matt Stevens revealed he had failed a drugs test and was promptly suspended by both club and country.
- 2012: British sprinter Bernice Wilson had a four-year ban confirmed after losing an appeal against the sanction imposed following her positive test for two anabolic steroids.
- 2012: Chris Coleman was appointed as the new Wales manager, succeeding his friend. the late Gary Speed.
- 2014: Stan Wawrinka ended Novak Djokovic's 25-match winning run at the Australian Open as he got the better of the defending champion in the quarter-finals.
- 2023: Andy Murray battled past home favourite Thanasi Kokkinakis in five sets at the Australian Open to finally finish their second-round match at just after

### WE'RE NO1 FOR FOOTY NEWS



ALAN says Shearer **Manchester United are** paying the price for "terrible" recruitment and that it will take a long time to fix things Ruben boss after Amorim admitted his side might be the "worst" in the club's history.

United are 13th in the Premier League after sinking to a 3-1 loss to Brighton at Old Trafford on Sunday.

They have won only three of their 11 league games since Amorim started work as successor to the sacked Erik ten Hag, losing six of them.

them.
And the Portuguese said in his post-match press conference after the Brighton game: "We are the worst team maybe in the history of Manchester United

worst team maybe in the history of Manchester United.
"I am saying that because we have to acknowledge that and to change that."
Former England capture and Premier League alltime top scorer Shearer

### By JACK FARLEY

said: "You sort of get and

said: "You sort of get and understand why he's probably saying that, to buy himself time.
"It's so unusual that you have one of, if not the biggest football club in the world and the manager's coming out and saying this is the worst side in their history.
"Only last weekend, we were saying how well they performed at Arsenal and Liverpool, yet a week later he's coming out and saying they are the worst in their history, it's incredible.

Scenario

### **Scenario**

"Because of how bad it's been there, how bad the recruitment's been, how bad the takeover's been and how bad everything is, basically, he has a bit of a free hit until the end of the season I think.
"Someone had to go in there and strip it back to the

bare bones, and that's exactly what it needs. It is going to take time and whoever went in was going

"They need massive recruitment now and in the summer, but it's going to



take a lot longer than that to get that club right. "The recruitment has been so bad there. It has been terrible. And now they are paying the price for it. It's going to take a lot of

"They're actually worse now than they were under Ten Hag because of what this manager wants to do with his system. They can't play it, the way he wants to play, the players just can't do it."

oit."

Former Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher dismissed the majority of the current United side as a "joke" but insisted Amorim's comments could get him into trouble.

The former England centre-back said: "Tve got no time for this Manchester United team. I don't feel the players or their confidence— half of them are a joke anyway.

"But I'd be very surprised if the powers that be above him won't be having a very strong word.

### **Window**

"You don't speak like that as a Manchester United manager...when you're in a very poor situation, you don't pour petrol on the

ames. Meanwhile, it's looking more and more likely that Marcus Rashford will still be a United player when the

window closes.

Barcelona are the latest club to be linked with the wantaway forward.

But his massive £325,000

a week wages are

stumbling block as the Catalan giants can't afford anything like that much.

Other big clubs in Europe are willing to give him a chance to get his career going – but not for almost £1.5million a month in his wagepacket.

Borussia Dortmund have reportedly been in contact with Rashford's team, as have AC Milan who are going for Kyle Walker instead.

It's a similar situation

going for Kyle Walker instead.

It's a similar situation with AS Monaco as United are reluctant to subsidise Rashford's wages for the bigger names on the continent.

Something could still happen with Barca but it would probably mean a big wage drop.

The Catalans have money to spend but their wage structure would be blown out of the water by the Englishman.

One player who could be on his way on loan is Garnacho with Napoli keen to sign him until the end of the season.

to sign him that the end of the season.

They still see him as top player despite his struggles since Amorim took over at Old Trafford.



BACK: David Moyes

### Moyes just magic says Toffees ace **Ndiaye**

EVERTON forward Iliman Ndiaye believes new manager David Moyes' methods are already clicking into place and the performance against Tottenham was evidence

of that.
The 3-2 victory at Goodison Park was only the team's fourth win of the Premier League season but it showed a season but it showed a
different approach in only
Moyes' second match in
charge, after they failed to
score in nine of the
previous 11 top-flight games.

"The new manager has come in and it is getting a bit more clearer what we want to do," said Ndiaye. "Everyone is on the

same page, the fans are behind us, and everything just clicked. "We brought energy and

the fans were behind us. (It was) obviously a bit more structured and everyone knows what each other is doing.

"The way we are structured the strikers need to go forward more when we regain the ball. We are closer to the goal and closer to each other, which is what we want.

"I don't know if it is freedom but the whole team is just clicking. I feel like that is what is most important."

### Climb

Ndiaye scored his sixth goal of the season in all competitions but his first in the Premier League at Goodison Park and that was a personal confidence boost for him and the victory one for the team in general.

"I am delighted. I haven't scored in the Prem at Goodison Park yet but it does feel good," he added. "We haven't been

getting too many wins recently but it feels good. "We just beat

Tottenham, who are a big team. We just need to climb up the table now and get more wins.'

Meanwhile, Seamus Coleman says his short spell in charge of the team has whetted his appetite

for management.
The captain was in charge with Leighton Baines for the FA Cup win over Peterborough.

over Peterborough.
The 36-year-old said:
"Being on that side, seeing and feeling how it works and being on the sideline and seeing your team was good, and enjoyable. In the future it's definitely something I think I will have a crack at."

- 1. At which club did Denis Law begin his
- 2. In darts, who won the Bahrain Masters?
- 3. Which rugby union team play their home games at Ashton Gate?
- 4. In which US city do the following sports teams play – Eagles, 76ers and Flyers?
- 5. Who is currently top of the women's golf rankings?
- 6. George Russell will be joined by which driver at Mercedes for the 2025 Formula 1 season?
- 7. In which year did Billie Jean King's only Australia Open singles victory come? A) 1968, B) 1969 or C) 1970?
- 8. How many Olympic medals did Dame Kelly Holmes win during her
- 9. Matt Beard manages which Women's Super League team?
- 10. Who is top of the ICC men's Test bowling rankings?
- 11. Darts player Stephen Bunting claimed his first World Series win in which country last week?
- 12. In what year did James Anderson make his debut for Lancashire?
- 13. Which Championship rugby league club plays at Post Office Road?
- 14. Name the last Spanish woman to win a grand slam singles tennis title?
- 15. Who did Shaun Murphy beat to win his first world snooker title in 2005?
- 16. Valtteri Bottas will be reserve driver for which Formula One team in 2025?
- 17. Name the British teenager who won a World Cup slopestyle title in Laax this week?
- 18. After Rory McIlroy, who is the top European in the current world golf rankings?
- 19. Which of the following is not a team name in US Triple A League baseball: Cat Burglars, Space Cowboys, or Rubber Ducks?
- 20. Nikita Parris currently plays for which Women's Super League club?

Brighton. Featherstone Rovers; 14. Garbine Muguras; 15. Metroedes; 17. Mia Brookes; 18. Ludvig Aberg; 19. Cat Burgiars; 20. Brighton. ANSWERS: 1.

Huddesfield; 2. Stephen
Huddesfield; 3. Bridsol Bears; 4.

Philadelphia; 5. Welly
Kords; 6. Madres klim Three; 9. Liverpool; 10.

Three; 9. Liverpool; 10.

Baptif Burnrah, 11.

Baptif Burnrah, 11.

Gesthresfore Rovers; 14.

## IT'S ALL HAPPENING IN

### ASTON Villa have rejected a bid from Premier League rivals West Ham for forward Jhon Duran.

West Ham first registered an West Ham first registered an interest in Duran last summer but failed to pursue initial advances for the Colombian striker and he signed a new deal with Villa until 2030 in October. However, the Hammers have stepped up their efforts to bring the 12-goal forward to London and had a bid reported to be in the region of

12-goal forward to London and had a bid reported to be in the region of £57million turned down by Villa earlier this week.

The transfer speculation was an unwanted distraction for Villa ahead of their Champions League clash away to Monaco.

Leading scorer Duran was still involved but, with 20 of his 27 appearances this season having come as a substitute, boss Unai

### By JOHN ANTHONY

Emery acknowledged it was a challenge for him to find a way to play the highly-rated attacker with Ollie Watkins.

Ollie Watkins.

Watkins scored his 10th goal of the campaign in Saturday's 2-2 draw at Arsenal and insisted post-match he could partner Duran, which has only happened once under Emery in the 5-0 loss away to Crystal Palace last

### **Proper**

Asked about playing Watkins and Durantogether, Emerytold reporters in Monaco: "Firstly, it's my challenge. It's my challenge to try to get the best individually and then collectively.

"Collectively means may be playing together, but we have to work tactically because to play with two strikers, two proper strikers, is not the same task as playing together, because they have to try to help the team as well offensively and

team as well offensively and defensively.
"I think I can find a solution to play at the beginning and start them together, but they have to understand the role"

at the beginning and start them together, butthey have tounderstand the role."

Villa have enjoyed an excellent return to Europe's elite competition with four wins out of six matches to sit fifth in the new league phase of the Champions League.

"Our target is to be in the top eight. Our opportunity and our objective is not to get 16 – we will try to get 19 points because with that we will be there for sure."

Villa have also signed defender Andres Garcia from Spanish Segunda Division side Levante.

Garcia has made the move to Villa Park for an undisclosed fee, with Villa also not revealing the length of the contract.

the contract.

The 21-year-old full-back came through the ranks at Levante before

breaking into the first team and has scored three times this season.

Garcia joins fellow new arrival Donyell Malen in Unai Emery's squad following the Netherlands international forward's move from Borussia Dortmund last week.

MANCHESTER CITY have completed the signing of Brazilian defender Vitor Reis from Palmeiras.

The 19-year-old has signed a four-and-a-half-year deal with the Premier League champions.

### **Trophies**

City have also brought in Uzbekistan defender Abdukodir Khusanov on the same length contract.

contract.

"I'm excited to join Manchester City, one of the biggest clubs in the world," Reis said.

"Everyone has seen the amazing

achievements in recent seasons and I want to make my mark as we seek

### TRANSFER WINDOW



more trophies. Working with Pep Guardiola is something every young player wants to do and I know he can help me to develop into the best

player I can be.
"City also have a lot of experience of working with Brazilian footballers and joining the likes of Ederson and

Savinho in the squad will be a big help to me." City's director of football Txiki Begiristain added: "Vitor Reis is one of the most promising young defenders in the world and we're delighted to been able to bring him

"He is excellent on the ball and outstanding in the air – he has all the attributes needed to be one of

the best.

"Vitor is very young, but his quality is so high that we believe he can help us now and for a long time into the future."

BURNLEY have signed former

England international Shelvey on a deal until the end of

the season.

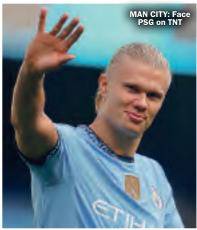
The 32-year-old midfielder, who won six caps for England between 2012 and 2015, joins Burnley after his contract with Turkish Super Lig side Eyupspor ended.

"It feels amazing to get it done,"

"It feels amazing to get it done," Shelvey said.
"It's been quite a long process, but it's all done now and I'm excited for it. I like the club as a whole, every time I have played against Burnley at Turf Moor it's been tough.
"But I'm part of this team now and my aim is to do my best to help this club get back into the Premier League, where it belongs."

this club get back into the Fremier League, where it belongs." Shelvey has made over 450 career appearances since his Charlton debut at the age of 16. He had spells at Liverpool, Swansea, Newcastle and Forest before moving to Turkey.





### WEDNESDAY

- SOCCER: Champions League, RB Leipzig v Sporting Lisbon TNT Sports 4, Paris St Germain v Manchester City TNT Sports 1 1900, Arsenal v TNT Sports 1 1900, Arsenal v Dinamo Zagreb — TNT Sports 2 1900: Europa League, Besiktas v Athletic Bilbao — TNT Sports 4 1515, Sky Bet Championship, Plymouth v Burnley 1930. • CRICKE: International T20, India v England — TNT Sports 1 1300.
- 1 1300. GOLF: PGA Tour, The Farmers Insurance Open Sky Sports Golf 1645 Sky Sports Main
- Golf 1645 & Sky Sports Main Event 2230 TENNIS: Australian Open Eurosport 1 0800. BASKETBALL: NBA, Dallas Mavericks v Minnesota Timberwolves TNT Sports 2 0030 (Thu).

### THURSDAY

- SOCCER: Europa League, Hoffenheim v Tottenham TNT Sports 2 1700,
- Monteniem Violentiam

  INT Sports 2 1700.

  Manchester United v Rangers

   INT Sports 1 1900, Lazio v
  Real Sociedad INT Sports 2
  2015. Sky Bet League One.
  Wrexham v Birmingham
   Sky Sports Main Event 1900.

  CRICKET: Women's Ashes
  second T20. Australia v
  England INT Sports 1 0745.

  GOLF. IP World four. The Ras
  Al Khaimah Championship
   Sky Sports Golf B930 8. Sky
  Sports Main Event 0930. P6A
  lour. The Farmer's Insurance
  Open Sky Sports Golf 1645
  8. Sky Sports Main Event
  2230.
- 8 Sky Sports Main Event 2230.

   TENNIS: Australian Open Eurosport 1 0830.

   BASKETBALL: NBA, Indiana Pacers v San Antonio Spurs TNT Sports 4 1900. Milwaukee Bucks v Miami Heat TNT Sports 1 0030 (Fri). Los Annales Lakers v Boston Angeles Lakers v Boston Celtics — TNT Sports 1 0300

### FRIDAY

- SOCCER: Sky Bet Championship, Sheffield United v Hull Sky Sports Main Event 1930.
- Main Event 1930. RUGBY UNION: Gallagher Premiership, Hartequins v Northampton TNT Sports 1 1900: United Rugby Championship, Ospreys v Benetton BBC Two Wales
- 1915.
  60LF: DP World Tour, The Ras
  Al Khaimah Championship —
  Sky Sports Golf & Sky Sports
  Main Event 0830; P6A Tour,
  The Farmers Insurance Open
   Sky Sports Golf 1700 & Sky
  Sports Main Event 2230.
- TENNIS: Australian Open —
- Eurosport 1 0830. DARTS: Dutch Masters ITV4 1800. BASKETBALL: NBA,
- Philadelphia 76ers v Cleveland Cavaliers TNT Sports 1 0000 (Sat). SATURDAY

### SOCCER: Premier League, Manchester City v Chelsea — Sky Sports Main Event, Sky Sports Premier League 1700;

- Sky Bet Championship, Luton v Millwall — Sky Sports Main Event 1100; Women's Super League, Aston Villa v Manchester City — Sky Sports Premier League 1130. RUGBY UNION: Gallagher
- RUGBY UNION: Gallagher Premiership, Gloucester v Leicester TNT Sports 2 1445, Exeter v Saracens TNT Sports 2 1715; United Rugby Championship, Cardiff v Sharks S4C 1700. Dragons v Munster S4C 1930. CRICKET: Women's Ashes third 170 Australia v Finland
- CRICKET. Women's Ashes third T20. Australia v England TNT Sports 1 0745; International T20. India v England TNT Sports 1 1300.
  GOLF: DP World Tour. The Ras Al Khaimah Championship Sky Sports Golf. Sky Sports Main Event 0830. PGA Tour. The Farmers Insurance Open Sky Sports Golf 100 & Sky Sports Main Event 2030.

  "ENNIS: Australian Open Eurosport 1 0630.
  DARTS: Dutch Masters ITV4 1800.

- NARIS: Dutch Masters —
   1800.

   RACING: Live From
   Chettenham ITV & STV
   1300.
- BASKETBALL: NBA. Dallas MAYORICE VIOLET NOA, DALIAS
  Mayericks v Boston Celtics —
  TNT Sports 1 2230, Golden
  State Warriors v Los Angeles
  Lakers — TNT Sports 1 0130
  (Sun)

### SUNDAY

- SOCCER: Premier League, Crystal Palace v Brentford Sky Sports Premier League 1300 & Sky Sports Main Event 1400, Aston Villa v West Ham Sky Sports Main Event, Sky Sports Premier League 1600, Sports Premier League 1600, Fulham v Manchester United — TNT Sports 1 1800; William Hill Premiership, Dundee United v Rangers — Sky Sports Main Event 1100; Women's Super League, United v Rangers — Sky
  Sports Main Event 1100:
  Women's Super League.
  Chelsea v Arsenal — BBC Two
  1200. Manchester United v
  Brighton — Sky Sports
  Premier League 1930: Serie
  A. AC Milan v Parma — TNT
  Sports 11115. Lazio v
  Fiorentina — TNT Sports 2
  1930.

  RUGBY UNION: Gallagher
  Premiership. Sale v Bath —
  TNT Sports 11430: United
  Rugby Championship, Ulster v
  Zebre — BBC Two Northern
  Ireland 1715.

  GOLF: DP World Tour, The Ras
  Al Khaimah Championship —
  Sky Sports Golf, Sky Sports
  Main Event 0800: PGA Tour,
  The Farmers Insurance Open
  — Sky Sports Golf 2130.

  TENNIS: Australian Open —
  Eurosport 1 0830.

  EDINIONA. NET AFC.

- Eurosport 1 0830.
   GRIDIRON: NFL. AFC e GRIDIRON. NFL. AFC
  Championship play-off.
  teams TBC — Sky Sports NFL
  1900. AFC Championship
  play-off. teams TBC — Sky
  Sports Main Event 1930. NFC
  Championship play-off.
  teams TBC — Sky
  Sports Main Event Sky
  Event Sky Sports Main
  Event Sky Sports Main
  Event Sky Sports Main
  Tevent Sky Sports NFL
  2330.
  BASKETBALL: NBA, Portland
- Trail Blazers v Oklahoma City Thunder TNT Sports 2 2300.

### **ON SALE WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY**

**January 22 2025** £1.80 (on sale Wed Jan 22 & Thur Jan 23)

## MOTHERWELL chief executive Brian Caldwell has stressed they are in no rush to sell Lennon Miller after rejecting two offers for the midfielder. Serie A club Udinese failed with a £2.5million offer for the 18-year-old, who is sidelined by a hairline fracture of the ankle until next month. The Scotland Under-21 international, who captained Motherwell before his injury, has scored four goals and provided six assists this season. Caldwell said: "We have had a couple of offers from a club who are miles away from our valuation. "We are not desperate to sell the player. We have always said it's got to be right for Lennon and us. "Lennon is statistically in the top seven players in the world for his age for midfield players. He is an exceptional talent and if and when Lennon does move it will be the right price for us and also right for Lennon at the same time."



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